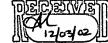# Withrow & Terranova

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Examiner Hung Q. Pham	Benjamin S. Withrow

COMPANY:	DATE:
PTO – Art Unit 2172	12/3/2002

FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
703-746-7238	11

PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
703-306-5844	7000-044

RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:
Response to Final Office Action	09/431,566

☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Attached please find the following documents related to the above-referenced application:

1) Response to Final Office Action mailed 03 October 2002 (10 pages)

NOTE: The information contained in this transmission is privileged and confidential and intended ONLY for the individual or entity named above. If you should receive this transmission in error, please notify our office and return to the below address via the U.S. Postal Service.

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#42/ C$_E^{\prime\prime}$
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12-6-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Clarkson et al.   Examiner: Pham, Hung Q.
Serial No. 09/431,566   Art Unit: 2172
Filed: 10/29/1999
For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR BUILDING AND DISTRIBUTING AUDIO
       PACKAGES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED 03 OCTOBER 2002

In response to the office action mailed 03 October 2002, Applicant offers the following remarks. If any fees are required in association with this response, the Director is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account 50-1732, and consider this a petition therefor.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 41–43, without prejudice.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the Office Action of 03 October 2002 and respectfully opines that the Patent Office misunderstood the thrust of Applicant's arguments in the previous response. Before turning to the rejections, a brief review of the present invention will be helpful to provide context to the arguments that follow.

Summary of the Invention

Applicant's invention is designed to send audio files to gateways so that they may be played to network users during the course of the operation of the network. This saves network bandwidth resources by distributing messages that are commonly played at the gateways. In this manner, a gateway has a set of frequently accessed audio files and does not have to use network bandwidth to access messages such as "all circuits are busy." These audio files are standardized across a plurality of gateways and used system wide. However, before these audio files may be sent to the gateways, they must be assembled into a package that is readily understandable by the gateway. Thus, the packages must have an audio segments file (which contains the messages) and an index file (which identifies to the gateway where the segments start and stop). Central to